

RED CROSS RECORD IS WAR "WONDER"

Relief in Ten Countries Represents \$325,000,000 in American Money.

H. P. DAVISON'S REPORT

The American people have either paid in or pledged to the American Red Cross for its work of relief throughout the world, in money or material values, a net total of at least \$325,000,000.

The American Red Cross has a total membership of 20,648,103, and, in addition, 8,000,000 members in the Junior Red Cross, a total enrollment of more than one-fourth the population of the United States.

American Red Cross workers produced up to July 1 last a total of 221,232,335 articles of an estimated value of \$44,000,000.

About 8,000,000 women are engaged in canteen work and the production of relief supplies.

Aids in Ten Countries.

The American Red Cross is distributing aid in ten countries—the United States, England, France, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland, Palestine, Greece, Russia and Siberia. Besides it has sent representatives to Serbia, Denmark and Madeira.

More than 5,000 Americans will be working under the Red Cross in France by January 1 next. These facts were laid before the 3,354 chapters of the Red Cross in the annual message of the war council of the Red Cross which the chapters throughout the country today held their annual meetings to elect officers. Announcement was made in the message that every man, woman and child in the United States would be asked at Christmas time to enroll in the American Red Cross.

The message, signed by Henry P. Davison, chairman of the war council, said, in part:

Mr. Davison's Message.

"Since the beginning of the war you of the chapters have co-operated with the war council in conducting two war fund drives and one membership drive, in addition to the campaign on behalf of the Junior Red Cross. The total actual collections to date from the first war fund have amounted to more than \$115,000,000. The subscriptions to the second war fund amounted to upward of \$176,000,000. From membership dues the collections have amounted to approximately \$24,500,000.

"To the foregoing must be added that very large contribution of materials and time given by the millions of women throughout the country. For the period up to July 1, 1918, American Red Cross chapters, through their workrooms, had produced 490,120 refugees' garments; 7,123,621 hospital supplies; 10,786,439 hospital garments; 10,134,501 knitted articles; 192,748,107 surgical dressings—a total of 221,232,335 articles—of an estimated aggregate value of at least \$44,000,000.

Product of Women's Hands.

"These articles were largely the product of women's hands, and, by the same token, infinitely more precious than could have been the output of factories or machines. These articles going to the operating rooms of the hospitals, to homeless or needy refugees, and carrying comfort to our own boys in the field, convey a message of love from the women of this country entirely distinct from the great money value attaching to their handiwork.

"By the terms under which the first Red Cross war fund was raised, the chapters were entitled to retain 25 per cent of the amount collected, in order to defray local expenses, to carry on their home service work, to purchase materials to be utilized in chapter production and otherwise to meet the numerous calls made upon them. The chapters were thus entitled to retain nearly \$20,000,000. As a matter of fact, their actual retentions amounted to only about \$22,000,000. Out of collections from annual memberships the chapters have retained about \$11,000,000.

From this total sum, therefore, of \$32,000,000 retained by the chapters they have met all the oftentimes very heavy local demands upon them, and, in addition, have provided for

use by national headquarters products valued at upwards of \$44,000,000. The chapters have, in effect, returned to the war council, not alone the \$22,000,000 retained out of the war fund and membership dues, but, in value of actual product, an additional contribution of at least \$11,000,000.

Vast Sum Turned In.

"It will thus be seen that during the eighteen months which have elapsed since the United States entered the war the American people will have either paid in or pledged to the American Red Cross for its work of relief throughout the world, in money or in material values, a net total of at least \$325,000,000.

"This outpouring of generosity in material things has been accompanied by a spontaneity in the giving, by an enthusiasm and a devotion in the doing, which, after all, are greater and bigger than could be anything measured in terms of time or dollars.

"It has been because of this spirit, which has pervaded all American Red Cross effort in this war, that the aged governor of one of the stricken and battered provinces of France stated, not long since, that, though France had long known of America's greatness, strength and enterprise, it remained for the American Red Cross in this war to reveal America's heart. 'In this country, at this moment, the workers of the Red Cross, through its chapters, are helping to add to the comfort and health of the millions of our soldiers in 102 camps and cantonments, as well as of those traveling on railroad trains or embarking on ships for duty overseas.'

Home Service Extends Aid.

"The home service of the Red Cross, with its now more than 40,000 workers, is extending its ministrations of sympathy and counsel each month to upward of 100,000 families left behind by soldiers at the front—a number ever growing with the increase of our men under arms.

"But, of course, the heart of the Red Cross is its money and attention always more toward and focus themselves in Europe. Nothing is withheld that can be given there to supplement the efforts of our Army and Navy caring for our own boys. Our satisfaction is in the result, which, we are assured by Secretary Baker, Gen. Pershing, Gen. Ireland and all our leaders, is of inestimable value and of indispensable importance.

"By the first of January your Red Cross will have working in France upward of 5,000 Americans—a vivid contrast to the little group of eighteen men and women which, as the first Red Cross commission to France,

sailed about June 1, 1917, to initiate our efforts in Europe. 'Under your commission to France the work has been carefully organized, facilities have been provided and effective efforts made to so co-operate with the Army as to carry out the determination of the American people, and especially of the members of the Red Cross, that our boys 'over there' shall lack for nothing which may add to their safety, comfort and happiness.'

Work in Other Countries.

"Your Red Cross now has a live operating commission in France, in England, in Italy, in Belgium, in Switzerland, in Palestine and in Greece. You have sent a shipload of relief supplies and a group of devoted workers to northern Russia; you have dispatched a commission to work behind our armies in eastern Siberia; you have sent special representatives to Denmark, to Serbia and to the city of Madeira.

"Your Red Cross is thus extending relief to the armies and navies of our allies. We are told by those best informed in the countries of our allies that the efforts of your Red Cross to aid the soldiers and to sustain the morale of the civilian populations left at home, especially in France and Italy, have constituted a very real factor in winning the war.

"What the Red Cross may be called upon to do in the further course of the war, or with the coming of victory, peace and reconstruction, it would be idle to attempt to prophesy. But your great organization, in the very truth the mobilized heart and spirit of the whole American people, has shown itself equal to any call, ready to respond to any emergency. We cannot but believe that this wonderful spirit which service in and for the Red Cross has evoked in this war is destined to become in our national life an element of permanent value.

"At Christmas time we shall ask the whole American people to answer the Red Cross Christmas roll call. It will constitute a unique appeal to every man, woman and child in this great land of ours to become enrolled in our army of mercy. It is the hope of the war council that this Christmas membership roll call shall constitute a re-consecration of the whole American people, an inspiring reassertion to mankind that in this hour of world tragedy not to conquer but to serve is America's supreme aim."

Gen. Pershing has sent a letter of appreciation to the farmers of America, who, he says, have not only supplied their quota of fighting men and bought largely of liberty bonds, but have increased crops more than one thousand million bushels above normal production.

LIEUT. KIRKE NEWELL RISKS LIFE FOR OTHERS

Former Foot Ball Quarterback Throws Self on Grenade in Effort to Avert Peril to Men.

ATLANTA, Ga., October 23.—A story of how Kirke Newell, former Auburn quarterback and rated one of the south's best foot ball players, threw himself on a hand grenade at a training camp in France in an effort to save the lives of half a dozen of his men is related in a letter received here from Capt. Quimby Melton, former Atlanta newspaper man. Newell, a lieutenant, has been sent back to his country and is recuperating at the base hospital at Fort McPherson.

Lieut. Newell was drilling his platoon in hand-grenade throwing, Capt. Melton wrote, when one recruit, after pulling out the safety pin loosing the handle that lights the fuse of a grenade, lost his nerve, and, instead of throwing the bomb, dropped it and ran. It was one of the types that explode in five seconds after the fuse is lighted. Lieut. Newell could have stepped behind a transverse section of the trench, Capt. Melton said, "but several of his men nearby would not have had time, and the former Auburn star flung himself on the grenade. The explosion killed one man and fatally wounded another, besides injuring Newell, but the others escaped, thanks to their lieutenant's action."

Lieut. Newell refused to have his wounds dressed until the injured men had been attended to. The latter, however, died later. Capt. Melton said Newell might never be able to see active service again.

WILL MEET TO DECLARE FOR NATIONAL FREEDOM

Representatives of 65,000,000 people of the oppressed nationalities of central Europe will draw up a joint declaration of the independence of their peoples from the domination of the Teutonic nations at a meeting in Independence Hall, Philadelphia, Friday and Saturday.

Delegates to the conference, called upon invitation of the mayor of Philadelphia and the patriotic societies of America, have left Washington.

Prof. T. G. Masaryk, prime minister of the newly recognized Czechoslovak republic, will preside at the conference. Other nationalities to be represented include the Yugoslav, Polish, Italian, Rumanian, Ukrainian, Lithuanian, Rumanian and Rumanians.

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